

probably have witnessed one unobserved before by ornithologists. On May 18, 1889, near Chelsea, Delaware Co., Pennsylvania, I observed a pair of Wrens diligently engaged in lugging sticks into a large hornets' nest, which was hanging under the cornice of an old farmhouse. Near the top of the nest a cavity had been excavated, evidently by the birds, as the ground underneath was strewn with its fragments. I was unable afterwards to visit that locality, but from inquiry feel confident, they succeeded in rearing their brood unmolested.—J. HARRIS REED, *Chester, Pa.*

Birds near Springfield, Massachusetts.—Throughout the early summer of 1888, near the main highway between Springfield and Westfield, and in the immediate vicinity of three farmhouses, a male Mockingbird remained, singing incessantly. This year at exactly the same spot the bird has again appeared. Although I have never seen the female, still there is very little doubt that there is one there and that they bred there last year and are doing the same this year.

On September 14, 1889, I shot and captured a Leach's Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*) upon the Connecticut River, four or five miles below Springfield. Its presence so far inland can undoubtedly be accounted for by the very violent northeast storm that had prevailed for the preceding two or three days. The bird sat upon the water and permitted me to approach in a boat within fifteen or twenty yards,—it would then arise and fly perhaps a quarter of a mile, then alight, repeating this action several times, until I finally shot it.

A pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) have bred in Agawam, near Springfield, this summer; this fact may not be worthy of mention, but it is quite rare to find them here.—ROBERT O. MORRIS, *Springfield, Mass.*

Notes from Minnesota.—During a collecting trip to Madison, Lac Qui Parle County, Minnesota, which occupied the last three weeks in May, 1889, I observed among others the following birds:—

Limosa hæmastica. HUDSONIAN GODWIT.—A dozen or more seen in company with the Marbled Godwit. Two specimens taken.

Tringa fuscicollis. WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER.—Very abundant, inhabiting muddy sloughs, associated with Pectoral and Red-backed Sandpipers. A large series collected.

Arenaria interpres. TURNSTONE.—A small flock observed, out of which I secured four females and one male; found with Sandpipers.

Ammodramus caudacutus nelsoni. NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED FINCH.—A single individual, a female, was shot on the edge of a swamp of wild rice. There were no markings on the breast, and the entire under parts were strongly tinged with buff, in this respect resembling *A. leconteii*.

Rhynchophanes mccownii. MCCOWN'S LONGSPUR.—A male was taken in a large field; it was in company with a large number of Chestnut-collared Longspurs.